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E-1056A

August 7, 1992

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Senator Tom Harkin
131 E. 4th Street
Davenport, IA 52801

Dear Senator Harkin:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

IS/FPC/CDR HW Date 10/18/92

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My name is Jeno Berta. I am a constituent and I am writing you to ask your attention to the matter of Raoul Wallenberg. As you may know, Wallenberg was a Swedish diplomat who intervened in Budapest in 1944-45 and helped save the lives of approximately 100,000 Jews. He was taken captive by the Soviets and has not been heard of since. I am contacting you in hopes of learning of his fate and to see if our government can do anything to resolve this matter.

Attached to this letter is a copy of a letter I wrote to The Quad City Times. I have also sent a copy to The Des Moines Register. This letter goes into some of the details of the outstanding actions of Wallenberg and therefore, I will not repeat them here. However, it is my hope that after reading this letter, you will feel the way I do. That being, Wallenberg is a hero whose memory needs to be maintained.

I first became aware of Wallenberg when I was a junior high student. Recently, my interest was rekindled regarding him and I conducted some research on his life and his deeds. My father is a native Hungarian, having escaped after his involvement in the 1950 Hungarian Revolution. I am not Jewish, but do feel a debt of gratitude to him for his efforts to save the lives of people to whom I share an ethnic heritage.

It is obvious that the former Soviet Union holds the key to this mystery. Now, that the old order has fallen, information may now be available on him. I am requesting that you investigate this matter and if necessary, ask President Bush and or Secretary of State James Baker to inquire as well.

I realize that this is not a matter that is of pressing concern, either economically or politically. Yet it is my hope that the moral concern of Wallenberg will compel you to action. I have sent a copy of this letter to and I feel that cooperation between all offices would be in order. A bipartisan effort on this matter seems quite appropriate to me.

I would hope you could discover:

1. What was the true fate of Wallenberg?
2. Where and for how long was he held captive?
3. Assuming he is dead, where are his remains?
4. Why has he not been returned to Sweden for burial?

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5. Why the Soviets held him and on what charge?
6. Why did the Soviets lie about him?

You may find it helpful to contact the Swedish mission to coordinate efforts. Also, if these questions have already been answered, I would appreciate hearing what you know. I thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and I remain, as always,

Very sincerely yours,

cc:
Congressman Lesch
Senator Grassley

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